

**LOUISIANA
THIRD QUARTER 2002
COVERED EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES**

The average quarterly employment for Louisiana during third quarter 2002 was 1,842,792, a decrease of 0.9% from the second quarter 2002, and a decrease of 1.0% from the same period in 2001. Employment increased in seven of the 20 NAICS sectors from the second quarter 2002. The largest percentage increase of 8.7% was in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting. Average quarterly employment by NAICS sector and subsector is shown in the table "Louisiana Statewide" beginning on page 6.

RLMA three was the only RLMA that experienced an increase in employment from the second quarter 2002 and from the same period in 2001. The largest percentage increase in employment from the second quarter 2002 was: in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting for RLMAs two, three, four, and six; in arts, entertainment and recreation for RLMA seven; in administrative and waste services for RLMA five; in mining for RLMA eight; and in both construction and arts, entertainment, and recreation for RLMA one.

Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the state with 253,926 employees, or 13.8% of total employment. RLMA one was the leading region with 593,993 employees, or 32.2% of total employment.

Average quarterly employment data for third quarter 2002, second quarter 2002, third quarter 2001, and the percent change for the major industry sectors is shown in the table "Louisiana Average Employment and Units – 3rd Quarter 2002" on page 3. Louisiana's average employment distribution by NAICS sectors and RLMA can be found in the charts on pages 4 and 5 respectively.

Total wages increased 2.0% from the same period in 2001, and decreased by 1.5% from second quarter 2002, for an average weekly wage of \$563.05.

Average weekly wage data for each RLMA is listed in the following table. Average weekly wage data by NAICS sector and subsector is shown in the table "Louisiana Statewide" beginning on page 6.

Parish	Avg. Wkly. Wage
RLMA 1	\$ 604.03
RLMA 2	570.57
RLMA 3	581.35
RLMA 4	563.70
RLMA 5	542.39
RLMA 6	469.89
RLMA 7	523.50
RLMA 8	478.65

The number of reporting units for third quarter 2002 was 115,555, an increase of 976 units or 0.9%, from second quarter 2002, and an increase of 1,408 units or 1.2%, from the same period in 2001. The number of reporting units for third quarter 2002, second quarter 2002, third quarter 2001, and the percent change for the major industry sectors is shown in the table "Louisiana Average Employment and Units – Third Quarter 2002" on page 3.

Due to the conversion to NAICS, this data should not be compared to data in publications prior to first quarter 2001.

LOUISIANA MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT

